

## EXPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR KUWAIT

### ELIGIBLE/INELIGIBLE PRODUCTS

#### A. Eligible Product

1. Meat and Meat Products - Beef, veal, lamb, mutton, and goat
2. Poultry and poultry products

#### B. Ineligible Product

1. Pork and Pork Products

### PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS

#### Meat and Poultry

1. Pork tissues or lard are not permitted in formulated products.
2. Products containing textured vegetable products are permitted in formulated products.

### LABELING REQUIREMENTS

A. Storage temperature must be placed with the refrigeration statement on the boxes to fully clarify the type of product being handled. (Example: "*Keep Frozen - Store At Or Below \_\_\_ degrees Centigrade; Keep Chilled (Or Refrigerated) - Store Between \_\_\_degrees Centigrade and \_\_\_ degrees Centigrade*")

B. Fresh/frozen and canned meat and poultry - In addition to the labeling features mandatory in the United States, packaged meat and poultry must bear the following features:

1. Country of origin.
2. Statement that product has been slaughtered according to Islamic principles.
3. Bilingual - English and Arabic
4. The English section of the label should state the name of the product and the name and address of the manufacturer or the producer. Product names may deviate from the U.S. standards if approved according to 9 CFR 317.7 or 381.128. For example, chicken from the U.S. is commonly labeled "American Chicken". Contact FSIS Technical Service Center at (402) 221-7400 for information on approval of export label deviations.\*
5. Metric net weight is required. Lettering and numbers for unit metric weight must be in Arabic (NOTE: Gross weight is required for commercial invoices but is not required for product labels.)
6. Production (slaughtered or freezing) and expiration dates must be on individually packaged product. Date format requirements for Kuwait must conform to the following: Day/Month/Year for products with a shelf life of six (6) months or less and Month/Year for products with a shelf life of more than six (6) months. Dating should be in numeric format and bilingual (English/Arabic). \*

C. The following methods of labeling are alternatives to meeting the requirements for labeling precut and packaged fresh/frozen meat and poultry:

1. Stickers may be used but must not obliterate label terminology and must be self-destructive on removal. Stick-on labels covering required label features are not permitted. No sticker carrying the production and/or expiration date is allowed on any product.\*
2. Inserts may be used but must be accompanied by production and expiration dates. Inserts must be made of approved materials.

## DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

### Certification Requirements

1. Obtain FSIS Form 9060-5 - Meat and Poultry Certificate of Wholesomeness. All FSIS Form 9060-5 certificates must be dated and have the signature and title of an FSIS veterinarian.
2. Islamic Slaughter - In addition to FSIS certification, the exporter must obtain a Certificate of Islamic Slaughter from a member of an Islamic Center or Islamic organization. A certificate of Islamic (Halal) Slaughter is a certificate issued by a member of a Moslem organization recognized by the importing country to provide this service; the certificate states that animals were slaughtered according to Moslem religious requirements. This certificate must accompany products labeled "Halal." The certificate must be endorsed by the Arabian-American Chamber of Commerce or by a Kuwait Consulate and must accompany all shipments. The telephone numbers of the Arabian-American Chambers of Commerce are listed below.
3. FSIS Certification.
  - a. On fresh/frozen unprocessed product. Products bearing Halal label claims must be accompanied by an appropriate Halal certificate or a written assurance from the exporter that an appropriate Halal certificate will be supplied to accompany that shipment before it reaches its destination. FSIS is not responsible for certifying that products intended for export to Muslim countries meets appropriate requirements for religious slaughter. Procedures for export certification do not include agency oversight of the Halal process or review of the authenticity of the Halal certificate.
  - b. Raw materials used in processed products with Halal label claims must be accompanied by an appropriate Halal certificate.
4. Military Shipments. The Kuwait Ministry of Foreign Affairs may exempt shipments consigned to the U.S. military from local import regulations. Without this exemption, product will be subjected to inspection in accordance with local regulations. Each shipment consigned to the military should be accompanied by FSIS Form 9060-5 and a letter from the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait stating the shipment is for use by the military.

## HANDLING/STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

A. Product Requiring Special Handling - Kuwait requires that instructions for consumers concerning storage, preparation and other special handling requirements accompany all shipments.

B. Packaging - All fresh/frozen product must be visible through wrapper.

### C. Product Arrival and Expiration Dates

1. All imported packaged products with shelf-life greater than one year must arrive in Kuwait within six months from the production date on the label.
2. All imported products with shelf-life of one year or less must arrive within the first half of the shelf-life or within three months from the production date, whichever is less.

### PLANTS ELIGIBLE TO EXPORT

All Federally inspected meat or poultry plants are eligible to export to Kuwait.

### ARABIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

#### 1. NATIONAL U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1625 Eye Street NW Suite 902  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 331-8010  
fax (202) 331-8297

#### 2. U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

135 South Lasalle Street Room 1020  
Chicago, Illinois 60603  
(312) 782-0320  
fax (312) 782-7379

#### 3. U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1231 Market Street  
San Francisco, California 94101-7239  
(415) 552-8202  
(213) 646-1499 branch office in Los Angeles

A certified Islamic Center approved to issue Halal certificates for poultry products sold to cooperative owned stores in Kuwait is:

Al Farooq Mosque  
Atlanta, GA  
(404) 452-7170

For assistance in locating the nearest Kuwait Consulate, contact:

The Embassy of the State of Kuwait  
2940 Tilden Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
(202) 966-0702

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